

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
September 2, 2015

PROSPECTUS FOR  
HAY CUTTING AND REMOVAL  
ON  
Hay Unit 1  
MIDEWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE  
WILL COUNTY  
ILLINOIS

**BID OPENING DATE: September 11, 2015**

**OPENING TIME: 2:00 pm.**

SUBMIT BIDS TO: PRAIRIE SUPERVISOR  
MIDEWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE  
30239 SOUTH STATE ROUTE 53  
WILMINGTON, IL 60481

## LIMITING CONDITIONS

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PROSPECTUS WAS TAKEN FROM THE BEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION. THE SOURCES ARE CONSIDERED RELIABLE BUT NO WARRANTY OF THE ACCURACY THEREOF IS MADE. ALL BIDDERS ARE EXPECTED TO MAKE THEIR OWN APPRAISAL OF THE PROPOSAL HEREIN OFFERED. ALL BIDDERS SHOULD MAKE THEIR OWN INVESTIGATION AS TO THE FACTS ABOUT THE AREAS, ACRES, AND ESTIMATES OF HAY PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES/REVENUES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANYTHING INDICATED IN THIS PROSPECTUS. DUE TO THE UNCERTAINTY OF INCLEMENT WEATHER AND GROUND CONDITIONS, ACCESS TO THIS AREA MAY BE INACCESSIBLE FOR INSPECTION. THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE SPECIAL USE PERMIT AND CONSIDERED PART OF THE PERMIT.

## PROSPECTUS INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this prospectus is to solicit bidders interested in the cutting and removing of hay on 1 Hay Unit at the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. Hay Unit #1 is approximately 246 acres.

## BID PROCEDURE

Lump sum sealed bids subject to terms and conditions set forth in this prospectus will be received by the Prairie Supervisor, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, 30239 South State Route 53, Wilmington, IL 60481 until **2:00 pm on Friday, September 11, 2015** to cut and harvest hay on Hay Unit 1 (Tract 211). The bid opening will be open to the public; bidders will be notified of the results.

**Each bid submitted must be accompanied by a Cashier's Check or Money Order deposit in the amount of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), payable to the USDA FOREST SERVICE.** Checks or Money Orders will be returned to all unsuccessful bidders. The deposit will be applied to the fee of the high bidder. If the high bidder cannot fulfill the terms of the Special Use Permit, the bid deposit will be forfeited, the Special Use Permit will be terminated, and the prospectus may be reissued. For each successful bid, a Bill for Collection and Special Use Permit will be transmitted to the successful bidder to sign and submit for payment. After full payment is received the Special Use Permit will be issued upon signature by the Prairie Supervisor. No activity will be permitted until payment is received and the Special Use Permit is approved.

The Forest Service reserves the right to extend the date for receiving bids, to reject any or all bids, and to waive any technical defects.

## GENERAL INFORMATION OWNERSHIP

All facilities and land covered by this prospectus are owned by the United States and administered by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. All bidders should make their own investigation as to the facts about the areas and estimates of hay production capabilities/revenues without reference to anything indicated in this prospectus. Prospective bidders are urged to consult with Bob Hommes at (815) 423-2138 to discuss permit conditions, inspect the sites, and acquire other pertinent information. Due to the uncertainty of inclement weather and ground conditions, this area may be inaccessible for inspection.

Any oral statement by any representative of the Forest Service, modifying or changing any condition of this prospectus is an expression of opinion only, and confers no right to the bidder.

The Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie is approximately two miles north of the Town of Wilmington, Illinois, and twelve miles south of the City of Joliet, Illinois. State Route 53 provides access to this site on the west side of Midewin, north of Explosives Road. See map for location of Hay Unit 1.

The hay unit being offered is part of many tracts identified within the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie for agricultural activities. Soils and physical features of the hay unit being offered indicate that the most efficient use of this land would be hay production. This unit has been used for agricultural purposes during most of the past fifteen years.

#### AREA DESCRIPTION

This offering includes one bid unit suitable for hay cutting and removal described as follows:

- A. BID ITEM NO. 1: HAY UNIT 1 (Tract 211)** – This Hay Unit contains approximately 246 acres in one tract suitable for hay production purposes on the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie; Tract 211 located in Township 33 North, Range 9 East, Section 1 and Township 33 North, Range 10 East, Section 6, of Will County, Illinois. See map for location. During most of the past 15 years this tract has been used for production of hay. Care must be taken to avoid trees planted in various locations in Hay Unit #1.

#### OFFERING

The offering involved in this prospectus is for cutting, baling, and removing hay by November 30, 2015. The high bidder(s) will be awarded exclusive authorization through the issuance of Special Use Permit. The offering is for one season only from September 11, 2015 to November 30, 2015.

#### TYPES OF SPECIAL USE PERMIT

A Special Use Permit will be issued and will be effective from September 11, 2015 through November 30, 2015. The permit will be issued to the successful bidder. The Special Use Permit will not be extended.

#### PERMIT AWARD

Bids will be judged on the monetary return to the United States only. It is assumed that all bidders will comply with the terms of the Special Use Permit.